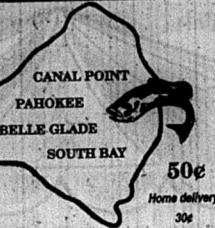




Thursday, April 10, 1997 Volume 74, No. 12



News Briefs

Gospel Concert planned for Pahokee Theatre

The Prince Theatre is planning a Gospel Concert featuring "Sonshine & Friends" on Saturday, April 12, at 7 p.m. The well-known Sonshine is a local trio consisting of Sandra Jarriel, Alice Thompson, and Shirley Waggon.

This group has been singing together for many years, performing in venues throughout the south. The trio has recorded two albums that will be available for purchase the night of the concert. Joining Sonshine are Zarak Lawson & More Than Jazz and soloist Shirley Jarriel.

There is no admittance fee, however, donations will be received for the redecoration of the Prince Theater.

Monthly entertainment is planned at the theater by Pahokee Main Street. Anyone who would like to get involved in the revitalization of the community, call 924-6332. Volunteers are always needed.

Wanna go to the Bahamas?

Attention all parents of students at Pioneer Park Elementary School. You are invited to participate in a trip to the Bahamas. Anyone interested should attend a meeting tonight, April 10 at the school at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria. Testing information and other Pioneer Park issues will also be addressed. Refreshments will be served and a children care service is provided.

For further information, please contact Ms. Stephens at 993-4480.

Gospel Sing set for May
Miracle Temple Ministries is planning a gospel sing for Friday, May 2 at the church, located at 1104 S.W. 16th Street, Belle Glade.

Singers from all around the state will be performing. Pastor Alvin E. Nichols invites everyone to attend.

Youth revival starts
Rev. Brian Rayburn will be the guest speaker at a Youth Revival at Good Shepherd Church of God in Pahokee beginning Friday, April 11 at 7 p.m.

The popular youth musical group, Schabach will lead the praise and worship time both Friday and Saturday evenings. Concluding the weekend event will be a special appearance by the Cooper City Church of God Youth Choir and Orchestra on Sunday evening at 6 p.m.

Youth Pastor Aaron Cordell and the World Changers of Good Shepherd invited everyone - especially young people - to attend.

Baha's offer discussions
The Magdalene Carney Baha'i Institute is offering a series of discussions for and about women. The next discussion is Saturday, April 19 at 3 p.m. at the Institute, located at 130 SE Ave. E., Belle Glade. The topic is Equality of Men and Women and the community is invited to attend. The next discuss is Saturday, May 3 at 3 p.m. and the topic will be parenting.

For additional information call Elinor Walker at 996-1669.



WELL-KNOWN GLADES ARTIST Ann Tyler displayed her artwork during the performance of "The Odd Couple" at the Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center on Tuesday, April 1. Mrs. Tyler's work graces the walls of several banks in the Glades and her mural is part of the Banks Museum which will hold grand opening ceremonies April 20 in Yesteryear Village at the South Florida Fairgrounds. An original Ann Tyler painting is also used as the cover of the 1997 Black Gold Jubilee Booklet this year and for the *Taste of the Glades* cookbook which will be sold at the Jubilee April 19.

Two challengers come forth in Pahokee City Commission race

Two challengers have come forth to vie for the seats currently held by Pahokee City Commissioners Roy Singletary and John Norman.

Larry Wright, 49, of 319 Parkview Court filed Friday, April 4 for the seat currently held by Singletary and George Kinsler, 43, of 2576 East Main Street has filed for the seat held by Norman.

"I'm not running 'against' anyone," said Wright. "I just feel God has given me talents and it hurts to not be able to use them. I love Pahokee and I want to work to make it a better place."

Wright has lived in Pahokee since he was 13, except for a few years when he moved away. He says he is campaigning on the theme of accountability, and believes major changes need to be made in Pahokee.

"If we spend so much money on programs to make our community better, then those programs should be accountable for just that, making our community better and cleaner and take it back to the norm, toler-



Larry Wright

ant society that our parents and grandparents established and nurtured here," he says.

If elected, Wright says he will ask for the resignation of Pahokee's Mayor, Ramon Horst and possibly the resignation of Pahokee's Police Chief, Skeets Salvatore.

Wright says racial problems, crime and businesses closing are some of the concerns he feels have not been addressed by the mayor and the police chief.

Wright acknowledges that he has had some problems working with the current city government and especially the police.

He says he is campaigning on the theme of accountability, and believes major changes need to be made in Pahokee.

"If we spend so much money on programs to make our community better, then those programs should be accountable for just that, making our community better and cleaner and take it back to the norm, toler-

Pahokee Chamber of Commerce in the past, "but that's all yesterday's news and I want to put that behind me and try to work with everyone to make Pahokee a better place," he said.

Wright was active on several committees in the past, including the chamber, and various beautification projects. He says conflicts with some in city government and the chamber caused him to have to step out of his role as a community worker.

These days, Wright wears the "I Love Pahokee" button...but upside down.

"Oh, yeah, that's deliberate," he says. "Don't get me wrong, I really do love Pahokee, but I'm not happy with the way it is now. I want to help change that."

Wright says any citizen or civic group that would like to meet with him to discuss needed changes in the city can call him at 924-5788.

(See next week's edition of *The Sun* for a story on Mr. Kinsler.)



SCRUB A DUB DUB-Bank employees at First Union in Belle Glade gave up their Saturday morning to wash cars for the March of Dimes. Employees from the Pahokee and Belle Glade banks scrubbed for donations which will go toward March of Dimes research and projects. Shown hard at work are Maria Vireno, Yolanda Rodriguez and Gary Little.

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Black Gold Jubilee kicks off the weekend with children's events

By Brenda Bunting
Editor

Children will be swarming around the Marina this weekend as the 19th annual Black Gold Jubilee begins Saturday morning with the popular Children's Fishing Contest.

Sponsored by the Belle Glade Fire Department, this well-attended event begins at 9 a.m. Registration for those who haven't pre-registered is from 7 to 9 a.m.

Children from toddler to 15 years of age are encouraged to bring a pole and enter the contest for the biggest fish, the smallest fish and the most poundage. Bait will be provided.

"We really enjoy putting on this event for the kids," says Belle Glade Fire Chief Steve Rice. "We believe this year is going to be even better because we have great gifts for all the youngsters and nice prizes, too."

Children will again be the focus that evening as the annual Little Mr. and Miss Black Gold Pageant kicks off at 7 p.m. at the Belle Glade Elk Lodge. Organized this year by the Glades Day School Elementary Booster Club, the event draws children ages 3 to 5. There is no charge for admission and the community is welcome to attend.

The fun continues next week when the Black Gold Jubilee Gospel Sing begins at 7 p.m. on April 15 at the First Baptist Church. Gospel Committee Chair Robin Waggoner says the two-hour event will begin with Mayor Steve Weeks offering the "Blessing of the Soil" in recognition of the rich muck soil which makes the Glades a fertile crop-growing area.

The main Jubilee weekend begins Friday, April 18 with the Harvest Queen Festival at the Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center. This popular event is usually a sold out event and it is

CEO of Health Care District takes over as administrator of Glades General Hospital

Palm Beach County Health Care Special Taxing District CEO Cecil Bennett announced at the April 8 board meeting that he has assumed the position of administrator of Glades General Hospital in Belle Glade.

Bennett told the board members that hospital Administrator Michael Layfield was no longer at the hospital. He said the hospital would go by the name, Palm Beach Health Care District, doing business as Glades General Hospital. He told members a \$177,000 annual contract with Quorum,

begins at 7:30 p.m.

Celebration of the American Family is the theme of this year's Jubilee and participants in the parade, which begins at 10 a.m., are encouraged to utilize the theme in their float designs. Parade Chair Cheryl Stein says a great deal of interest has been shown in the event this year and she is expecting a good turnout.

Chris Farrell, meteorologist



for WPEC Channel 12 will be in the parade and will also be the MC at the Jubilee under the entertainment tent from 12:30 to 3 p.m.

The WIFE (Women Involved in Farm Economics) Cookie Contest will also be going on that morning at 8:30 a.m. at the Belle Glade Chamber of Commerce. Applications are available at the Chamber.

Over 250 runners are expected to participate in the 5K Walk/Run which begins at 7:30 a.m. at the Belle Glade Marina. Chair Dolly Hand says everyone who enters will receive a free Jubilee t-shirt and prizes will be awarded in various categories.

Jubilee Chair Sue Teets says headline entertainers this year include The Duttons, who are back by popular demand and Dennis Lee Lee has performed at several Jubilee festivals and always draws a good crowd.

For information on any of the Jubilee activities, call the Belle Glade Chamber of Commerce at 996-2745.

Housing related issues addressed at meetings

By Phil Anderson
Community Liaison, Centro Campesino-Farmworker Center, Inc.

A group of Belle Glade tenants, landlords and concerned residents met in the community room of Mount Zion AME Church at 249 SW 10th Street on Thursday, February 20 and Thursday, March 20, 1997. The purpose of the meetings was to address issues related to housing needs in their city. These meetings provide up-to-date information about housing in Belle Glade. They are a forum where all stakeholders can join in meaningful

See Housing problems addressed, Page 7

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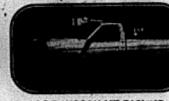
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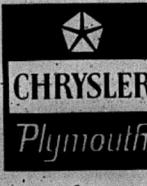
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Medical Services

Dealing with tuberculosis

By Paula Swaford, RN

Years ago I worked with a young woman who needed to have major surgery. During routine lab tests, it was discovered that she had tuberculosis in her abdominal cavity and in her lungs. This was the first time I had ever heard of tuberculosis existing outside of the pulmonary system in the body. In our history books we learned that our ancestors often died of consumption or the white plague. These were other names for tuberculosis, which used to be the leading cause of death in the United States.

Tuberculosis (or TB) is a bacterial disease that generally attacks the lungs. Germs eat away at the tissue, causing cavities to form in the lungs, making breathing increasingly



Paula Swaford, RN

more difficult. It can travel to other areas of the body, as in the case of my former co-worker. A cure was found in the 1940s for TB and worldwide cases were at a low in 1985. However, with the advent of AIDS cases, TB has increased by a disturbing rate of over 20% since that time.

Unfortunately, many doctors

today don't recognize TB or how to treat it. TB is contagious, but not every exposure results in disease. Those who are infected have only a 10% chance of getting sick. It can be cured with a long course of medicine and strong antibiotics taken over a six to twelve month period. Because of the length of the course of treatment, many people don't finish taking the drugs, and thereby increase the chance of developing full blown TB.

TB can be dormant or active. If you have TB germs in your body, but they are not making you sick, you may have a dormant type. You are not considered contagious, but your skin test is usually reactive and follow-up chest x-rays are recommended. Sometimes the physician will advise a course of TB

drugs, just to be on the safe side. If you have had a positive skin test, then you may be among the ten million people in the U.S. with dormant TB.

The symptoms of active TB include severe, sometimes bloody cough; fatigue and weakness, night sweats, persistent fever, loss of appetite and unexplained weight loss. This is the contagious stage of TB where the germs attack your body and make you sick. This disease is spread through the air when someone coughs, sneezes, talks or spits. You can get TB by breathing in the germs. It is not as easy to catch as the common cold, but if you are exposed to another person who has active TB, it can be easy to contract from them.

So, what can you do to pre-

vent ever coming down with TB? First, know the symptoms and encourage anyone you know with those symptoms to be tested. Secondly, practice good hygiene. Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze, don't spit, and practice good handwashing techniques.

After all, when you use a public restroom, remember the person who last touched that handle or door knob may be contagious. It is usually recommended to get a skin test, or PPD, every year; especially for anyone working closely with the public. If you have TB, take your medicine faithfully to prevent a drug-resistant strain and possibly worse complications. Even if you feel better after a few weeks on the medication, continue to take it as you were instructed.

Remember that anyone can get TB, but some people are more susceptible because of where they work, where they live or if their immune system is weakened by another disease, such as AIDS. Alcoholics, drug users, homeless people, prisoners, nursing home residents, the very young and the elderly, as well as health care workers, are all potential candidates. Also people who come from other countries where TB is common are susceptible.

The main thing that you, the general public, can do is stay informed and aware of the rapid increase in TB cases throughout the world. Public education and information is one way of fighting this insidious disease.

Until next time, stay informed and stay healthy.

How much time he gains who does not look to see what his neighbor says or does or thinks, but only at what he does himself, to make it just and holy.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

What is Carpal Tunnel Syndrome?

By Alan J. Schefer, M.D.

Carpal Tunnel Syndrome is one of the most common disorders of the hand and wrist, with approximately 250,000 people in the United States diagnosed yearly.

Carpal Tunnel Syndrome is caused by compression of one of the main nerves within the hand and wrist that provides sensation and strength to the hand and fingers. Diabetes, thyroid conditions, kidney problems, pregnancy, menopause, obesity, rheumatoid arthritis and trauma can all cause Carpal Tunnel Syndrome by producing swelling, placing pressure on the nerve. A fixed posture of the wrist can also produce this disorder. Symptoms occur more at night because we sleep with our wrists flexed and our normal hormones make us more swollen at night.

The most common complaint



Alan J. Schefer, M.D.

of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome is tingling in the fingers. Patients will feel like their fingers are falling asleep and will need to awaken at night to shake their hands and wrists. As the condition worsens, the tingling can lead to constant numbness. Other commonly described complaints are pain in the wrist, burning and weakness. People with Carpal Tunnel Syndrome will describe

difficulty with fine manipulations, such as putting on jewelry or buttoning shirts and frequent dropping of items.

If caught in its early stages, Carpal Tunnel Syndrome can usually be managed by non-surgical treatment. Therapy always includes night time wrist bracing, taking pressure off the nerve and allowing the nerve to heal. Supplemental treatments include anti-inflammatory medication, cortisone injections and vitamin B6. If symptoms progress, then surgery is recommended. Surgical treatment is a minor procedure, performed in an outpatient setting.

In summary, people who suffer from these described symptoms should be evaluated by a Hand Specialist to determine if there are other underlying disorders and to rule out any associated conditions.

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- Smile with confidence. If your smile lacks the old sparkle, try a blend of cosmetic suns as Rembrandt's Dazzling White that can get teeth up to five shades brighter in just a few weeks. So make sure to start early.

- Let your hair down. Keep it well conditioned. The months of sun, heat will dry, brittle hair if it is not well conditioned, so start.

- Wiggle your toes. Give your self a pedicure with warm water and bath oil, then use a pumice stone to soften your soles. Push back cuticles with a towel and add a bit a color to your toenails.

- Get outside. Whether it's a weekend away or a stroll downtown, get out of the house for some fresh air that will invigorate your body.

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OPINION PAGE

Feel strongly about local issues?



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To voice your opinion on any subject, call Speak Out at 996-6636, 24 hours a day. Readers can use this special number to pose questions, voice complaints, express opinions or pat somebody on the back. Unlike letters to the editor, Speak Out is designed for anonymous expression of opinions. We edit calls for clarity, brevity, relevance and fairness.

S-T-O-P means stop!

"I've decided that several area drivers are illiterate or visually impaired. They seem not to recognize a red, octagonal sign with the letters S-T-O-P on it. Particularly at the Southeast Avenue G and Southeast Third Street intersection.

Speeding east and west on the avenue, drivers continue to threaten anyone properly stopped on Third Street. Years ago, there used to be a blinking signal at the location, perhaps it should be re-placed, as a reminder.

Thank you."

Expensive lesson

"This is advice for anyone not feeling well. Go to the bathroom before going to the emergency room. A plastic bed pan will cost you \$11 and you don't get to take it home.

And you wonder why insurance and medical bills are so high?

Thank you."

Caller wants ditch filled in or cleaned up

"I'm calling about the ditch from the day care center to Duda Road along Gator Blvd. Some people who live along that ditch must think it's a garbage dump. Why can't the city either put in culverts or fill in the dump or find a way to make us who live by it clean it up?"

The other day, one half block east of the day care center, a moccasin about three foot long was laying in wait for some child to come by.

Letters to the editor

Dear Editor:

It has been a year since Demale Stanley was injured during spring football drills at Pittsburgh. He is now in The Shepherd Spinal Center in Atlanta, Georgia. I am asking that you have our community to continue to include this young man in their prayers.

If there are those who would like to send him messages of encouragement, his address is as follows:

Mr. Demale Stanley
The Shepherd Spinal Center
Building A, Apartment A-120
Atlanta, Georgia 30309

This courageous young man is determined to walk again and with his determination and our prayers of encouragement, we hope this will become a reality.

Thanks so very much,

Effie C. Grear, Principal
Glades Central High School

Thank God a grown man walked by and noticed the danger. The snake got back in the ditch before he could find anything to kill it with. What if it were a 5 or 6 year old child that happened upon it?

Please, everyone, clean up along the ditch or write or call the city to fill it in, for your sake and mine. Too many of us people walk along there to take a chance of getting bitten by snakes.

Also, on some of the streets we walk on in this part of town have three or four old cars or trucks in their yard with grass growing all around them. They haven't run in Lord knows how long. They're just sitting there rusting. Is there not some city ordinance against this? If not, shouldn't we get one passed or shouldn't the city do something about it?

Thank you."

Editor's note: City Manager Lomax Harrelle responds by saying:

"In reference to the Speak Out concerning the ditch along Avenue G/L/Gator Boulevard in Belle Glade, the ditch is owned and maintained by Palm Beach County. The city will notify county staff immediately concerning this problem."

In reference to the cars and trucks parked on private property, effective immediately the city's code enforcement staff will inspect all properties from Main Street to Duda Road. Any found not complying with the city's Code of Ordinance will be notified and given 30 days to correct the situation."

Recently the Glades Guild opened a craft show and sale in the "Old Glades Central High School Library", located at 425 West Canal Street, North in Belle Glade. This promises to be a very exciting venture for the Glades area crafters.

Almost 30 crafters are being featured in our project. We are hopeful that many new crafters will be interested in marketing their handwork through the Guild's General Store. Anyone interested in displaying their crafts in the General Store may contact the Guild at (561) 992-9500 or just come down to the old Glades Central High School Library. We would be most happy to talk with anyone.

We have a wide variety of handmade items for sale. The Guild features original and unique items for home or office. Everyone looking for a "one of a kind" gift is invited to come in and browse.

Sincerely,

Ms. Norma J. Moore
Ms. Katherine Scheffler



Experts agree: Death Penalty not a deterrent to violent crime

By Edward Hunter

University of Florida News

Feb. 14 was the 20th anniversary of the first execution in the United States since the death penalty's reinstatement, and a University of Florida researcher's new study shows 90 percent of the nation's top criminologists say killing people to deter violent crime is an immediate waste of time and money.

"Among the experts, there is overwhelming consensus that the death penalty never has been, is not and never could be a deterrent to homicide over any above long imprisonment," said Michael Radelet, chairman of UF's sociology department and a longtime researcher of death penalty issues. "The rates of consensus were much higher on this question than I ever thought possible. We never see 90 percent of criminologists agree on anything."

It was on Jan. 17, 1977, that Gary Gilmore faced a Utah firing squad to become the first man executed in the United States since the Supreme Court again legalized the death penalty in 1976. Through Dec. 31, 1996, 357 other prisoners have been executed.

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He said people need to keep in mind what it means to have an effective deterrent - the penalty persuades a person not to commit a violent criminal act - and distinguishing that from a retributive effect, or punishment for the crime.

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So why do people support the death penalty so fervently?

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"If you ask about death penalty vs. life in prison with restitution, support for the death penalty drops to a minority position," said Radelet. "That's in part based upon the recognition of the lack of deterrent effects and recognition of the tremendous cost of the death penalty trials."

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Florida Family Council looks at juveniles and violent crimes

By Mark W. Merrill
Florida Family Council

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into a world of crime. Thousands of our youths are becoming hardened criminals who will plague their communities for a lifetime.

Florida Family Council decided it was time to move beyond just numbers. With the cooperation of the Department of Juvenile Justice, we explored the life stories of these offenders to gather some clues as to what propelled them into crime. We surveyed 742 juvenile offenders ages 11-18. All had committed serious crimes and were repeat offenders. Since such a survey had never been done before in the

state of Florida, we were particularly anxious for the results. The findings were shocking:

* 72 percent came from homes where their mother and father were not married;

* 62 percent said their father's influence on them was negative or non-existent.

We also found that the more serious the youth was in trouble with the law, the more strained the relationship with their father had been. For example, of those who had been arrested 0-5 times, 24 percent said their biological

See, Juveniles, Page 5

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National Home Health Care Provider

Black Gold Notes

By Sue Teets, Jubilee Chairman

Jubilee Food Court is going to be

Um, Um, Good!

Do you crave cotton candy? Do you love kielbasa sausages with onions and green peppers? Or perhaps you're yearning to try some swamp cabbage? What about some "Big Easy" crawfish with boiled corn?

Festival goers will have a difficult time choosing which foods to try at Belle Glade's 19th annual Black Gold Jubilee. The Food Court will bring back Jubilee favorites such as old fashioned ice cream, but it will also offer some new and exciting treats to tempt your taste buds. All of the food booths will be located in the pavilion or nearby, so be sure to look for your favorites!

Food booths reserved so far are Muck Sausage & Gator Taters sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce; Gourmet Hot dogs sponsored by Gladys ARC; BBQ Ribs & Sandwiches sponsored by Cheryl Stein and Wanda Cheek; Shisha-Bob & Steam Cabbage sponsored by Gladys Airboat and Buggy Association; BBQ Chicken sponsored by Junior Gents; and Papa John's Pizza.

Also in the Food Court are Wilson Tyndall's Ribron Fry Potatoes & Cotton Candy; Darryl Tripp's Louisiana Crawfish & Boiled Corn; Glades General Hospital's Fruit Juices Smoothies, Boiled Peanuts, Popcorn & Hamburgers; Ron and Cindy Weagraff's Old Fashioned Ices & Baked Potato Bar; Donald and Beverly Garrett's Snosias, Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center's Cookies & Lemonade, and the First Baptist Spanish Church's Tacos & Elephant Ears.

Jubilee Children's Fishing Tournament is April 12

The Children's Fishing Tournament is just a few days away now, and everyone is getting ready for the big event. The tournament is open to youngsters in four age group categories: 0 to 5 years old; 6-8 years old; 9 to 12 years old; and

youth ages 13 to 15.

Sponsored by Belle Glade Fire Rescue, this ever-popular event is a perfect family activity. According to Chief Steve Rice, "We invite the whole family to come out and enjoy the fun. Bring your lawn chair and join us for the tournament." Rice says all bait will be provided for the youngsters.

The tournament has been made possible by the generous support of local sponsors such as Bank of Belle Glade, Knight Management, Inc., Dr. Howard Hill, and Burger King. Registration forms are available at Belle Glade City Hall and the Chamber of Commerce.

Kids Korner Offers Loads of Fun and Excitement

The Jubilee Kids Korner offers non-stop entertainment for kids of all ages from noon until 8:00 p.m. Children are required to purchase tickets to participate in most of the activities, and tickets are \$2.25 each.

Returning booths include the Glades Day School/Junior Society Hay Dig, the Europe '98 Class Cake Walk, Canal Point Elementary School Face Painting, Na Kappa Sorority Pick-up-Ducks, Explorer Post 611 Dunking Booth, Cana Point United Methodist Church Youth Bean Bag Toss, Gove Elementary School Cola Pitch, and the Cub Scouts Gold Fish Pond.

The Jubilee also will have the Dragon Bounce and a trackless train, and the Strawberry Patch.

New activities include a bungee run, the First Baptist Church Youth's Pie Throw and the Boys and Girls Club's Basketball Hoop Shoot.

For the first time, the Jubilee Kids Korner will have a 50-foot Super Slide. Children may ride the super slide all day at no charge, compliments of Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative and Flo-Sun, Inc.

Other Kids Korner sponsors are Smith Barney, Great Lakes Chemical, Orsengio, Inc., Hi-Tec and Badcock Furniture.



PBCC's 1997 Teachers of Excellence: Top, L-R: Patrick McMahon, David Duncan, James Graziosi. Front row: Mary Kelly, Shari Lyes and Barbara Scheffler.

Patrick McMahon has received Teacher of Excellence honors. McMahon, a member of the Glades Campus business faculty, was a recipient of the award in 1995. He has been teaching full time at PBCC since 1989.

All six award recipients were chosen by their peers for exceptional professionalism, and will be recognized at the 19th Annual International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence set for May 25-26 in Austin, Texas.

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WE TRAIN GOOD SOLDIERS FOR A GOOD ARMY

Bible Boot Camp Children's Revival

Anna and Doug Phillips, Evangelists

April 20 - 23

Sun. at 6:00 p.m.

Mon. - Wed. 7:00 p.m.

Good Shepherd Church of God

1800 Bacon Point Road

Pahokee, Florida 33476

For more information call Pastor David (561) 924 - 7284

Juveniles

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How these kids viewed their fathers was determined in part by marital status. Sixty percent of those offenders who said their parents were married felt their father's influence on them was positive. If the parents were not married, that positive rating dipped to 32 percent.

There are no doubt several factors contributing to the juvenile crime problem. However, we need to be aware that the breakdown of the family, and in particular father absence, plays a large role. Our survey results confirm what other states, such as California, Illinois and Pennsylvania have already found.

We can always decide to deal with juvenile crime by just building more prisons. But that costs a lot and destroys lives that could be saved. And while we need to deter crime

Continued from Page 4

with the threat of punishment, it would also be wise to prevent crime by dealing with the underlying causes. If the survey results tell us anything, it is that responsible fatherhood is an important antidote to crime.

How can we begin to put a dent in this problem? There will be no easy answers. Yet we as a state can work together on all levels. Government can and should look at revising divorce laws so we can limit the number of young people who will grow up fatherless. Businesses can seek ways to adopt family-friendly policies that will allow fathers to be more involved in the lives of their children. And individuals can look for opportunities in their homes and neighborhoods to encourage responsible fatherhood. Crime prevention begins with fathers.

Mark W. Merrill is a member of the Commission on Responsible Fatherhood and president of Florida Family Council, a statewide, non-profit research and education organization dedicated to strengthening the family.

OPINION PAGE



Feel strongly about local issues?

**INVITES YOU TO
THE SUN SPEAK OUT!**

996-6636

To voice your opinion on any subject, call Speak Out at 996-6636, 24 hours a day. Readers can use this special number to pose questions, voice complaints, express opinions or put somebody on the back. Unlike letters to the editor, Speak Out is designed for anonymous expression of opinions. We edit calls for clarity, brevity, relevance and fairness.

S-T-O-P means stop!

"I've decided that several area drivers are illiterate or visually impaired. They seem not to recognize a red, octagonal sign with the letters S-T-O-P on it. Particularly at the Southeast Avenue G and Southeast Third Street intersection."

Speeding east and west on the avenue, drivers continue to threaten anyone properly stopped on Third Street. Years ago, there used to be a blinking signal at the location, perhaps it should be re-placed, as a reminder.

Thank you.

Expensive lesson

"This is advice for anyone not feeling well. Go to the bathroom before going to the emergency room. A plastic bed pan will cost you \$11 and you don't get to take it home."

And you wonder why insurance and medical bills are so high?

Thank you.

Caller wants ditch filled in or cleaned up

"I'm calling about the ditch from the day care center to Duda Road along Gator Blvd. Some people who live along that ditch must think it's a garbage dump. Why can't the city either put in culverts or fill in the dump or find a way to make us who live by it clean it up?"

The other day, one half block east of the day care center, a moccasin about three foot long was laying in wait for some child to come by.

Letters to the editor

Dear Editor:

It has been a year since Demale Stanley was injured during spring football drills at Pittsburgh. He is now in The Shepherd Spinal Center in Atlanta, Georgia. I am asking that you have our community to continue to include this fine young man in their prayers.

If there are those who would like to send him messages of encouragement, his address is as follows:

Mr. Demale Stanley

**'The Shepherd Spinal Center
Building A, Apartment A-120
Atlanta, Georgia 30339'**

This courageous young man is determined to walk again and with his determination and our prayers of encouragement, we hope this will become a reality.

Thanks so very much;

**Effie C. Great, Principal
Glades Central High School**

Thank God a grown man walked by and noticed the danger. The snake got back in the ditch before he could find anything to kill it with. What if it were a 5 or 6 year old child that happened upon it?

Please, everyone, clean up along the ditch or write or call the city to fill it in, for your sake and mine. Too many of us people walk along there to take a chance of getting bitten by snakes.

Also, on some of the streets we walk on in this part of town have three or four old cars or trucks in their yard with grass growing all around them. They haven't run in Lord knows how long. They're just sitting there rusting. Is there not some city ordinance against this? If not, shouldn't we get one passed or shouldn't the city do something about it?

Thank you.

Editor's note: City Manager Lomax Harrelle responds by saying:

"In reference to the Speak Out concerning the ditch along Avenue L/Gator Boulevard in Belle Glade, the ditch is owned and maintained by Palm Beach County. The city will notify county staff immediately concerning this problem.

In reference to the cars and trucks parked on private property, effective immediately the city's code enforcement staff will inspect all properties from Main Street to Duda Road. Any found not complying with the city's Code of Ordinance will be notified and given 30 days to correct the situation."

Sincerely,

**Ms. Norma J. Moore
Ms. Katherine Scheffler**

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Experts agree: Death Penalty not a deterrent to violent crime

By Edward Hunter

University of Florida News

Feb. 14 was the 20th anniversary of the first execution in the United States since the death penalty's reinstatement, and a University of Florida researcher's new study shows 90 percent of the nation's top criminologists say killing people to deter violent crime is an immense waste of time and money.

"Among the experts, there is overwhelming consensus that the death penalty never has been, is not and never could be a deterrent to homicide over and above long imprisonment," said Michael Radelet, chairman of UF's sociology department and a longtime researcher of death penalty issues. "The rates of consensus were much higher on this question than I ever thought possible. We never see 90 percent of criminologists agree on anything."

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Crime Stoppers

Crime Stoppers of Palm Beach County, Inc., is asking citizens to help locate **Anthony Ricardo Williamson**, who is wanted for aggravated battery on a pregnant woman. Williamson also goes by the alias Edward Eugene Williamson. He is 5'8" tall and weighs 200 pounds. His last known address was 539 21st Street, West Palm Beach. He has black hair and brown eyes and has a scar on his right hand. His date of birth is June 30, 1972. His Social Security number is 264-55-7579 and his last occupation is unknown. His warrant was active as of April 1, 1997. If you know the whereabouts of **Anthony Ricardo Williamson**, or anyone involved in a serious crime, call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-458-8477. You can remain anonymous and still receive a cash reward if your tip leads to an arrest.

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Um Um, Good!

Do you crave cotton candy? Do you love kielbasa sausages with onions and green peppers? Or perhaps you're yearning to try some swamp cabbage? What about some "Big Easy" crawfish with boiled corn?

Festival goers will have a difficult time choosing which foods to try at Belle Glade's 19th annual Black Gold Jubilee. The Food Court will bring back Jubilee favorites such as old fashioned ice cream, but it also will offer some new and exciting treats to tempt your taste buds. All of the food booths will be located in the pavilion or nearby, so be sure to look for our favorites!

Food booths reserved so far are Muck Sausage & Gator Taters sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce; Gourmet Hot dogs sponsored by Glades ABC; BBQ Ribs & Sandwiches sponsored by Cheryl Steel and Wanda Cheek, Shishka-Bob & Swamp Cabbage sponsored by Glades Airboat and Buggy Association; BBQ Chicken sponsored by Junior Gents; and Papa John's Pizza.

Also in the Food Court are Wilson Tyndall's Ribbon Fry Potatoes & Cotton Candy, Darryl Tripp's Louisiana Crawfish & Boiled Corn; Glades General Hospital's Fruit Juice Smoothies; Boiled Peanuts, Popcorn & Hamburgers; Ron and Cindy Weagraff's Old Fashioned Ice Cream; Glades Day School's Cuban Sandwiches & Baked Potato Bar; Donald and Beverly Garrett's Snoodis; Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center's Cookies & Lemonade, and the First Baptist Spanish Church's Tacos & Elephant Ears.

The Jubilee also will have the Dragon Boats and a trackless train, and the Strawberry Patch.

New activities include a bungee run, the First Baptist Church Youth's Pie Throw and the Boys and Girls Club's Basketball Hoop Shoot.

For the first time, the Jubilee Kids Korner will have a 50-foot Super Slide. Children may ride the super slide all day at no charge, compliments of Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative and Flo-Sun, Inc.

Other Kids Korner sponsors are Smith Barney, Great Lakes Chemical, Orsengo, Inc., Hi-Tec and Badcock Furniture.

Jubilee Children's Fishing Tournament is April 12

The Children's Fishing Tournament is just a few days away now, and everyone is getting ready for the big event. The tournament is open to youngsters in four age group categories: 0 to 5 years old; 6-8 years old; 9 to 12 years old; and

right hand. His date of birth is June 30, 1972. His Social Security number is 264-55-7579 and his last occupation is unknown. His warrant was active as of April 1, 1997. If you know the whereabouts of **Anthony Ricardo Williamson**, or anyone involved in a serious crime, call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-458-8477. You can remain anonymous and still receive a cash reward if your tip leads to an arrest.

This is the second time that

Patrick McMahon has received Teacher of Excellence honors.

McMahon, a member of the Glades Campus business faculty, was a recipient of the award in 1995. He has been teaching full time at PBCC since 1989.

All six award recipients were chosen by their peers for exceptional professionalism, and will be recognized at the 19th Annual International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence set for May 25-26 in Austin, Texas.

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Also being honored are

Senior Instructor James Graziose, South Campus; Senior Instructor Patrick McMahon, Glades Campus; and Associate Professor Barbara Scheffer, Eissey Campus.

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GLADES ART GROUP FEATURED ARTIST OF THE MONTH...Amanda Reynolds, a senior at Florida Atlantic University, holds her prize-winning oil painting of packing crates and shipping labels from earlier farming days in the Glades. The two labels were used by South Bay Growers and her grandfather, C.A. "Mutt" Thomas.

Beware of letter scam

The Better Business Bureau would like to warn area businesses to be on the lookout for fraudulent letters from Nigeria seeking unsuspecting victims

to buy into their get rich quick schemes as the letters have resurfaced in Palm Beach County.

The letters first surfaced sev-

eral years ago here and nationwide, even Better Business Bureaus received letters offering quick profits sometimes in the millions.

Although each letter may contain a slightly different appeal, the "official" writing the letter asks for assistance in transferring millions of dollars of excess money out of Nigeria. The person proposes depositing the money in a trustworthy United States bank account, in exchange for which the account holder will receive 30 percent or more of the transferred funds. To participate in the deal, the business or organization must provide its bank account number and the name, address, phone and fax numbers of the bank. Sometimes, the person requests copies of signed but otherwise blank company letterhead. Of course, no one has ever received the funds as promised, and many

have lost thousands of dollars.

The Better Business Bureau (BBB) of Palm Beach County was re-alerted to the scam recently when a member received such a letter and immediately forwarded it to BBB president, Bob Stephens.

"In July, over 40 arrests were made by the United States Secret Service in Nigeria, but apparently the problem has still not been solved. Unfortunately, they prey on those individuals who think they can get something for nothing," said Stephens.

The United States Secret Service reports they are still actively investigating the Nigerian scam and hope to make further arrests in the near future. They ask all letters be forwarded to the Better Business Bureau or the Secret Service for further investigation.

The West County Senior Citizens Center is located at 2146 State Road 15 in Belle Glade (out by the Courthouse and County Jail). They are open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Lunch is served daily at noon. The Center offers a wide variety of activities to keep the mind and body active and healthy. For a daily update on activities at the Center, tune to WSWN, 900 on the AM dial, at 6:30 and 9 a.m. daily.

Visitors to the Center may participate in exercises, crafts, coupon exchanges, games, quilting, movies, knitting, embroidery, cards, current events and Adult Basic Education.

Special Events this week include:

• Thursday, April 10 - Trip to the Palm Beach Mall.

• Thursday, April 10 - Nutrition Presentation.

• Tuesday, April 15 - Presentation from the Belle Glade Police Department, "Fighting Crime".

• Tuesday, April 15 - Nutrition Presentation.

• Tuesday, April 15 - Walk Down Memory Lane.

This week's lunch menu is as follows:

• Thursday, April 10 - Tuna Salad, Tomato Vegetable Soup, Cole Slaw, Wheat Bread, Lemon Pudding and Milk.

• Friday, April 11 - Roast Chicken w/Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Rye Bread, Cookie or Graham Crackers and Milk.

• Monday, April 14 - BBQ Pork Riblette, Garden Vegetables, Potatoes Au Gratin, White Bread, Fresh Apple and Milk.

• Tuesday, April 15 - Veal Patty w/French Gravy, Sliced Parsley Potatoes, Carrot Cuts, Dinner Roll, Fresh Orange and Milk.

• Wednesday, April 16 - Oven Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Green Peas, Rye Bread, Fresh Bananas and Milk.

The following is a poem brought in for the Senior

Citizens News:
A Senior Citizen's Lament

Thought I'd let my doctor check me,
'Cause I didn't feel quite right.
All those aches and pains
Annoyed me,
And I couldn't sleep at night.

He could find no real disorder,
But he wouldn't let it rest.
What with Medicare and Blue Cross,

It wouldn't hurt to do some tests.

To the hospital he sent me,
Though I didn't feel too bad.
He arranged for them to give
me,
Every test that could be had.

I was fluoresced and cystas
coped,
My aging frame displayed.
Stripped upon an ice cold table,
While my gizzards were
x-rayed.

I was checked for worms and
parasites,
For fungus and the crud...
While they pierced me with
long needles,
Taking samples of my blood.

Doctors came to check me over,
Probed and pushed and poked
around,
And to make sure I was still
living,
They even wired me for sound.

They have finally concluded,
The results have filled a page.
What I have will someday kill
me,
My affliction is old age.

The Palm Beach County
Division of Senior Services has
opened up an Elder Helpline. If
you are over 60 and need a new
route, the number is 930-5040.

If you would like to visit the
West County Senior Citizens
Center, but need help with
transportation, call 996-4818,
and transportation can be
arranged.

Having children is like having a bowling alley installed in your brain.

Martin Mull

The Carson Platt Estate
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AUCTION

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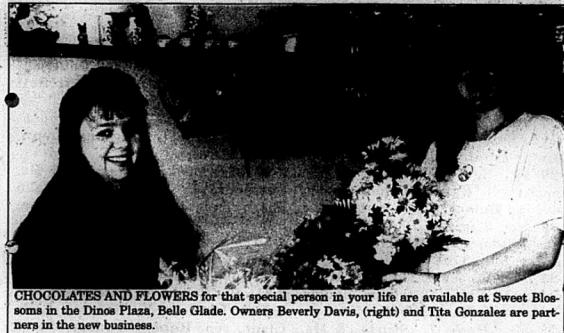
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In cooperation with Title Services and Estate Inc.

City Park is located in the heart of Clewiston, Florida, on
U.S. 27 on the shores of Lake Okeechobee. For more information call the
Sugar Festival Committee at 941-983-7979.

Festival admission is free.



CHOCOLATES AND FLOWERS for that special person in your life are available at Sweet Blossoms in the Dino's Plaza, Belle Glade. Owners Beverly Davis, (right) and Tita Gonzalez are partners in the new business.

Sweet Blossoms opens in Dino's Plaza

Two friends with different talents have gone into business together. The duo offer their unique talents in a new business called "Sweet Blossoms."

Owners Beverly Davis and Tita Gonzalez opened Sweet Blossoms March 11 in the Dino's Shopping Plaza at 1100 North Main Street, Belle Glade.

They are already doing a brisk business selling hand-made chocolates and fresh flower arrangements.

The two women became friends while working at the Family Care Center in Belle Glade. They decided recently to combine their talents to go into business together.

"I was already selling my chocolate creations and doing pretty well," says Davis. In addition to special orders, the two women were selling chocolates and flower arrangements

in their spare time.

"We made enough money over Valentine's Day to open the shop," said Davis.

Once a customer tries the quality chocolate used at Sweet Blossoms, they are hooked, says Davis.

"The chocolate is very good and we use quality ingredients," she says.

Davis has special designs for teachers, new babies, Mother's Day and birthdays, to name a few. The store also sells gift items, crafts, perfumes, novelty items, balloons and stuffed balloons.

Tita Gonzalez handles the flower arrangement portion of the business.

"Our flower arrangements are very reasonably priced," she notes. "We're trying to make flowers affordable. Flowers make everyone happy and we want people to enjoy them as often as possible."

The flowers are fresh cut within 24 hours and delivery is available in Belle Glade, South Bay, Pahokee and Clewiston.

Davis has lived in Belle Glade for three years. She is married to Belle Glade native Tim Davis and they have three children, Tim, Jr., 2, Desarie, 8 and Leland, 14.

Gonzalez is from Miami and has lived in the Glades about two years. Her husband, Joe, helps with the purchase of flower arrangements and delivery. They have three children, Jamie, 6, Joey, 3 and Jani, 1.

Sweet Blossoms is in Suite 105 in the plaza. The florist and chocolate store is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Fridays from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. The store opens at 10 a.m. on Saturday and closes at 3 p.m. The telephone number is 992-4476.

Mental Health board of directors. "These individuals make a great addition to our board and increase its involvement in the agency's growth and development," said Joseph Amato, executive director of the clinic.

The officers and other board members include: President Ken Schenck; Vice President Mayra Zeno, M.D.; Treasurer Dorothy Wilford; Secretary Donia Roberts; and Elizabeth Johnson.

Western Palm Beach County Mental Health Clinic announces appointment of 4 new members

Esther Berry of South Bay, Edna Garcia, M.D., of Pahokee, Tommie Gilbert of Belle Glade, and James Houston of Belle Glade are the four newest members elected to the Western Palm Beach County

Housing Board of Directors.

The officers and other board members include: President Ken Schenck; Vice President Mayra Zeno, M.D.; Treasurer Dorothy Wilford; Secretary Donia Roberts; and Elizabeth Johnson.

Meeting on housing in the City of Belle Glade set for next Thursday

Belle Glade Housing Meeting: Up to date information will be provided about Housing in the City of Belle Glade at a meeting on Thursday, April 17. This meeting will be held at the Mount Zion AME Church, 249 SW 10th Street, Belle Glade, at 7 p.m. Programs that work with low-income families who wish to buy a home will provide information. State and City code enforcement personnel will present updates on their activities and future plans.

The group attending will work on developing plans of action that will improve housing conditions in Belle Glade, and will increase the amount of decent and affordable housing. Everyone's input is highly valued.

Housing problems addressed...

Continued from Page 1

and constructive dialogue in order to develop strategies that will lead to safe, decent and affordable housing in the City of Belle Glade.

Frank Garguilo, District Director of the Department of Public Health, and Cheryl Blesky, District Director of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation attended, as well as the Senior Inspectors of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation. Paul Landman and Cindy Pierie. Several landlords attended the meetings, as well as tenants, farm-worker advocates and concerned residents of Belle Glade.

At the meetings in the Mount Zion AME Church, the group developed lists of the positive aspects of the housing they see in Belle Glade, and some of the aspects of housing that they feel need change.

Among the positive aspects the group listed were things like: Our neighbors are friendly people who respect and look out for each other in times of need. In most of our neighborhoods the people who live in single family homes keep their

places in good condition. In those neighborhoods, life is quiet and safe from disturbances and crime.

Among some aspects that the group felt needed change were the following: Some neighborhoods have a high concentration of people. (The downtown area has over 8,000 people per square mile.) Some areas have a high number of dumpsters that detract visually from the appearance of the city, especially since the dumpsters are placed in the street. Abandoned cars are an eyesore and danger to safety. Many cars are stickered repeatedly but never removed. Garbage is prevalent in some areas. The open pits on the curbside accumulate large piles of garbage; these are dangerous for children living in the area and they attract mice, rats and disease-spreading insects. The group also stated that they need to learn more about the City and Fire code inspection process. Some expressed that these departments are not as visible or as effective as they need to be, to deal with the job at hand.

After reviewing both the

aspects of housing in the City of Belle Glade that are working well and those that are not working well, the group began to develop strategies. The purpose of these strategies would be to enhance those aspects that work well and to improve on those that do not work well. Some of the strategies developed were: Encourage and motivate each other as neighbors to be responsible for the beautification, cleanup, and general enhancement of their neighborhood. Inform members of the group about the policies and practices of the City Code Enforcement Department, Department of Sanitation, as well as the Department of Community Development with regard to housing conditions in the City.

In past meetings, the group has written letters of concern to Secretary James Howell of the Department of Public Health and to Secretary Jim Murley of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation.

A response from Secretary Howell will be presented at the next meeting, to be held Thursday, April 17.



Gove School to present Magnet and School Improvement Plan

Gove Elementary School's Advisory Council will present their Fiscal year '98 School Improvement Plan, April 15, at 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. The purpose of the meeting is to gather input and feedback from the school community before the final plan is submitted to the district office.

Parents and members of the community are urged to attend the meeting. Anyone needing additional information should call 993-4042.

GDS to present

"Hollywood Hotel"

Gladies Day School's Class of 1997 will present "Hollywood Hotel" on Friday, April 11 and Saturday, April 12 at 7:30 p.m. There will be refreshments served following each performance.

Tickets are \$8 and can be purchased from cast members or by calling Janis Meeks at Gladies Day School, 996-4140.

Chamber has applications

for Black Gold events

Applications are available at the Belle Glade Chamber of Commerce for the many events associated with the Black Gold Jubilee. The annual Jubilee is April 19, with some events the week leading up to the all-day activities.

The Children's Fishing Contest is April 12 and parents must register their children and sign a release before their child can participate. The event starts Saturday at 9 a.m. and if you have not registered

tered your children, you may do so before the contest.

The Little Mr. and Miss Black Gold contest is that evening, April 12 at the Belle Glade Elks Lodge and the contest is now closed to new applicants.

The Belle Glade Lions Club is again sponsoring the Harvest Queen Pageant on April 18, at 7:30 p.m. at the Dolly Hall Cultural Arts Center. Tickets are \$10 per person. For additional information, call Beeky White at 996-5800.

Arts and Craft, and booth applications are also available at the Chamber as well as entry forms for the Photography Contest and the WIFE Cookie Contest.

For more information on any or all of the Jubilee activities, call the Chamber at 996-2745.

Children welcome

Lutheran Ministries of Florida, PEPPi Head Start, is recruiting and accepting applications for three and four year old children.

All are welcome, including children with disabilities and there are no fees. The center is located at 200 S.W. 9th Street, Belle Glade. For more information, call 996-1718. Contact persons are Barbara Green or Tammy Kyles.

Recovery Group meets at Good Shepherd

A Christ-centered recovery group meets every Monday evening at the Good Shepherd Church of God in Pahokee.

Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. and the public is welcome. The church is located at 1800 Bacon Point Road, Pahokee.

Recreation Department offering fitness classes

The City of Belle Glade Parks and Recreation Department is offering fitness classes to the public.

"Fitness Michele" will be offered at the Belle Glade Municipal Civic Center on Monday and Wednesday evenings. The first class on Monday night, titled "Basic Fitness" runs from 5:30 to 6:15 p.m. and the second class, "Stompin' Step" is from 6:15 to 7 p.m. Wednesdays classes run the same time with the first class stressing non-aerobic strength and toning for all fitness levels and the second class offering interval aerobics.

Instructor is Michele Young, RN. There is a \$2 fee per night. Steps and weights are provided.

Godparents are special

A new Godparent Program is starting up in the Glades and you are needed! Three Head Start Centers in the Glades need adults to help by donating a little time, love, and the gift of joy for young children.

Call Millie at 996-1608 for more information.

HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE

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Dispose of your old tires

Tire Amnesty Days

Saturday, April 12, 1997
Sunday, April 13, 1997
1:00 - 5:00 pm

Free Tire Disposal

• Auto and passenger size truck tires

(with or without rims)

(oversized tires accepted at Belle Glade Transfer Station only)

• Limit 8 tires per household

• Available to Palm Beach County residents only

• Florida driver's license and zip code and/or other proof of Palm Beach County residency required

ROYAL PALM BEACH
 West Central Transfer Station
 9743 W. Fairgrounds Road

DELRAY BEACH
 South County Transfer Station
 1901 S.W. 4th Avenue

JUPITER
 North County Transfer Station
 14185 Military Trail

BELLE GLADE
 Glades Regional Transfer Station
 1701 SR 15

LANTANA
 Central County Transfer Station
 1810 Lantana Road

WEST PALM BEACH
 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility
 North of 45th Street on North Jog Road

For more information, call the Solid Waste Authority at (561) 697-2700 or 930-2727 (toll free). If you live within a city, village or town limits, please check with your public works department for additional drop-off locations.

PAID FOR BY DEPS WASTE TIRE GRANT.



Everglades Regional Medical Center Birth Announcements

MARCH 1997

3-1 Mr. & Mrs. Pedro Vences (Orlando Lopez), Belle Glade, daughter, Crystal, 7 lb. 10 oz.

3-2 Ms. Shameka L. Henderson, Belle Glade, daughter, Shytiece Ari'el, 5 lb. 13 1/4 oz.

3-3 Ms. Antoinette Shorter, Orlando, son, Frankie Little, 7 lb. 3 oz.

3-4 Mr. Rex D. Eaton & Ms. Jennifer M. Whitehouse, Clewiston, son, Austin Michael, 8 lb. 13 oz.

3-5 Mr. Demetrius R. Newkirk & Ms. Angela Carleen Saulberry, Pahokee, daughter, De'Angela La'Shayla, 7 lb. 5 oz.

3-6 Ms. Shalonda Marchell Council, Pahokee, son, Nathaniel Shineak, 4 lb. 7 1/2 oz.

3-7 Mr. & Mrs. Allen J. Mawhinny (Suzanne M. Buckner), Hobie Sound, Dylan Allen, 9 lb. 7 1/4 oz.

3-11 Mrs. Gina F. Rodriguez, Clewiston, son, Celestino Felix, 7 lb. 6 oz.

3-11 Mr. Nora J. Steele & Ms. Janice D. Seay, Pahokee, daughter, Norriel Nikita, 2 lb. 1/2 oz.

3-11 Mr. Dermaine A. Odome & Ms. Tawanda L. Flowers, Belle Glade, son, Jatavious De'Andre, 7 lb. 1 oz.

3-12 Mr. & Mrs. Jason L. Lott (Lucinda Adams), Clewiston, daughter, Bailey Renee, 8 lb. 3/4 oz.

3-12 Mr. Reynaldo Alanis & Ms. Jessica A. Grimes, Belle Glade, daughter, Kristi Ann, 8 lb. 11 1/2 oz.

3-14 Ms. Nartosa Wynette Miller, Pahokee, daughter, Audrianna Katrine Taishay, 7 lb. 11 1/2 oz.

3-15 Mr. Aaron O. Rodriguez, Jr. & Ms. Veronica J. Martinez, Okeechobee, son, Aaron Orlando III, 7 lb. 1/2 oz.

3-15 Ms. Crystal Foulke, Okeechobee, son, Gage Andrew, 8 lb. 11 3/4 oz.

3-16 Mr. & Mrs. Israel Jimenez (Alma A. Bueno), Belle Glade, son, Israel Jimenez III, 7 lb. 1 1/2 oz.

3-16 Mr. Luc Louis, Sr. & Ms. Christine Cadet, Belle Glade, son, Luc Louis, Jr., 8 lb. 5 oz.

3-17 Mr. & Mrs. Zenaydo Vital (Onesima Barrera-Mena), Belle Glade, daughter, Laura, 7 lb. 2 oz.

3-18 Ms. Maria Calvillo, Pahokee, son, Alfredo, 6 lb. 9 1/4 oz.

3-18 Mr. Tarerance L. Oliver, Sr. & Ms. Daina T. Ashley, Belle Glade, son, Tarerance Lee Jr., 6 lb. 3 3/4 oz.

3-18 Mr. Antoine T. Simpson & Ms. Tekesha T. Lott, South Bay, daughter, Dylan Alex, 5 lb. 15 oz.

3-18 Mr. & Mrs. Ferdinand Thelamaque (Sainfleuzine Zine), daughter, Fernande, 7 lb. 8 1/4 oz.

3-20 Mr. & Mrs. Carlos I. Flores (Reyna Ballesteros), Clewiston, son, Wilmer Isual, 7 lb. 12 1/4 oz.

3-20 Mr. Kevie D. Walker & Ms. Teesta S. Burris, Pahokee, son, Kevinius Demetrius, 8 lb. 11 oz.

3-20 Ms. Theresa E. McFarland, Belle Glade, son, De'Eric Emmitt Lamar, 8 lb. 3 3/4 oz.

3-23 Mr. Vincente DeLeon & Ms. Yesenia M. Rojas, Clewiston, daughter, Janessa Yanira, 8 lb. 12 3/4 oz.

3-23 Mr. Hans E. Kurtz & Ms. Melanie E. Whitlock, Clewiston, son, Dylan Alex, 5 lb. 15 oz.

3-24 Mr. Anthony Eaddy, Jr. & Ms. Tamara V. Patterson, Pahokee, son, Anthony Eaddy III, 9 lb. 3/4 oz.

3-24 Mr. Kelvin B. Jones & Ms. Aretha D. Scaife, Pahokee, daughter, Alliyah Qua'Sharanda, 6 lb. 15 oz.

3-24 Mr. & Mrs. Gilberto Arguelles (Rosalinda Lopez), Clewiston, daughter, Meghan Renae, 8 lb. 6 oz.

3-24 Mr. & Mrs. Donnie M. Flowers, Sr. (Camille Franklin), Belle Glade, son, Donnie Manard, Jr., 8 lbs.

3-27 Mr. & Mrs. Bobby M. Wynn, Sr. (Kay Ellen Douglas), Okeechobee, son, Bobby Mitchell II, 9 lb. 10 oz.

3-27 Ms. Yvonne Lynn Copen, Pahokee, daughter, Melanie Lynn, 7 lb. 3 3/4 oz.

3-27 Mr. Mark S. Garrick & Ms. Cassandra L. Thomas, West Palm Beach, daughter, Markia Shalissa, 9 lb. 3 oz.

3-30 Mr. & Mrs. Martin Carillo (Maria DeJesus Tirado), South Bay, son, Jose Manuel, 7 lb. 12 oz.

3-31 Mr. Robert A. Hutchinson, Sr. & Ms. Patricia Y. Kearse, Belle Glade, son, Robert Audley, Jr., 6 lb. 15 1/4 oz.



Worship With Us

BELLE GLADE

APOSTOLIC CHURCH
201 N.W. 12th St.
Rev. Lloyd G. Green
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Sunday Evening Service 6:30 PM
Wednesday Night Meeting 7:00 PM

BELLE GLADE ALLIANCE CHURCH
100 N.W. 12th St.
Rev. Lloyd G. Green
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Evening Worship 6:30 PM
Wednesday Night Meeting 7:00 PM

CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Belle Glade
Rev. Robert Clark
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Worship 6:30 PM

CHURCH OF CHRIST
121 N.W. Ave. D.
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Worship 6:30 PM

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
No. 104 N.W. Ave. B.
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Worship 6:30 PM

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST NO. 1
728 N.W. Ave. C
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Worship 6:30 PM

CHURCH OF PROPHECY
501 S.E. 12th St.
Rev. James C. Morrison
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Service 6:30 PM

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS
801 N.E. Ave. A
Ramona-Palmetto-Brentwood
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Service 6:30 PM

CHURCH OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST OF THE APOTOLIC FAITH
100 N.W. 12th St.
Rev. Herbert Wesley Hedges
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Service 6:30 PM

COMMUNITY HOUSE OF PRAYER IN CHRIST
833 N.W. Ave. A
Elder John C. Foster
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Service 6:30 PM

COMMUNITY HOUSE OF PRAYER IN CHRIST
100 N.W. 12th St.
Elder John C. Foster
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Service 6:30 PM

JAMES A. BENNETT FUNERAL HOME
LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED
924-5604

COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

401 S.W. 15th St.
David A. Rod - Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 AM
U.M.W. 10:30 AM
Evening Worship 6:30 PM

EL BETHYL EVANGELIST PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
1010 PALM BEACH RD.
Coral Lot - Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Service 6:30 PM

EVERGLADES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
104 N.W. 10th St.
Rev. John C. Rod - Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Service 6:30 PM

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
17 N.W. Ave. B
Rev. Phillip Berndt - Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Service 6:30 PM

HATFIELD UNION OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
681 S.W. Ave. A
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Service 6:30 PM

HOUSE OF GOD
715 S.W. Ave. B
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Service 6:30 PM

MIRACLE TEMPLE
104 S.W. 16th St.
Rev. Alvin E. Nichols
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Service 6:30 PM

MYT ZION A.M.E. CHURCH
103 N.W. Ave. C & Corner of 10th St.
Rev. L.D. Jones - Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Service 6:30 PM

NEW BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
110 W. Ave. A
Rev. Rick Bellot - Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Service 6:30 PM

LAKE HARBOR
110 W. Ave. A
Rev. Rick Bellot - Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Service 6:30 PM

COMPASSION CHRISTIAN CENTER CHURCH
524 Perfect Drive
Miami, Florida 33430
Rick Bellot - Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Service 6:30 PM

PRIMER IGLESIA DEL NAZARENO
125 S.E. 12th St.
Rev. Miguel Soto - Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Service 6:30 PM

LAKESIDE BAPTIST CHURCH
2058 Bacon Point Rd.
Ted Hines - Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Service 6:30 PM

NEW BETHEL A.M.E. CHURCH
1620 N.W. 12th Ave.
Rev. D.L. Ford - Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Service 6:30 PM

THE FIRST HOLINESS CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD
125 S.W. 12th Ave.
Rev. Mike La Wister - Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Service 6:30 PM

THE INSPIRATIONAL CHURCH OF GOD
125 S.W. 12th Ave.
Rev. John C. Johnson - Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Service 6:30 PM

THE SUN and THE BIG LAKE SHOPPER
417 N.W. 16th Street • Belle Glade, FL 33430
(407) 996-4404

Sonshine & Friends to entertain at The Prince Theatre in Pahokee.

The Prince, *The Pahokee Main Street Theatre*, is planning a Gospel Concert featuring "Sonshine & Friends" on Saturday, April 12, 1997 at 7 p.m.

The well-known Sonshine is a local trio consisting of Sandra Jarriel, Alice Thompson, and Shirley Waggon. They have been singing together for many years, performing in venues throughout the South.

The trip has recorded two albums that will be available for purchase the night of the concert. Joining Sonshine are Zarak Lawson & More Than Jazz and soloist Shirley Jarriel.

There is no admittance fee, however, donations will be received for the redecoration of The Prince Theatre.

"We are thrilled to be able to present such a special concert to the community. Let's show our gratitude to Sonshine and Zarak Lawson for agreeing to appear for the benefit of the theatre by our presence at this event. Please join us as we bring downtown the entertainment you've requested," said Shirley Jarriel, Pahokee Main Street director.

Monthly entertainment is planned at the theatre by *Pahokee Main Street*. If you would like to get involved in the revitalization of our community, call us at 924-6332. Volunteers are always needed.

Obituaries

CERTITUDE M. VAN HORN, 90, of Belle Glade died Sunday, March 30, 1997 in Pahokee. Mrs. Van Horn was born in LaBelle, Florida and had been a long time resident of the Glades area.

Mrs. Van Horn was a member of the Belle Glade Garden Club, The Historical Society, and the Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center. She and her family were well known pioneers of Belle Glade.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ivan Van Horn, in 1984.

Survivors include her brother, Sidney McGhee of Clewiston, Florida; and many nieces and nephews.

Graveside services were held on Wednesday, April 2, 1997 at Hillcrest Memorial Park in West Palm Beach with Reverend Ronald Jones officiating.

SHARON ELAINE MOBLEY, 35, of Belle Glade died Tuesday, April 1, 1997 at Glades General Hospital. She had been a student at West Tech Vocational School in Belle Glade.

Survivors include her loving family, parents, Eugene & Nerita Mobley of Belle Glade; brother, Michael Mobley of Belle Glade; nieces & nephews, by Mixson Funeral Home.

The Sun is still looking for Glades area pioneers. All nominations are welcome. Contact **The Sun** to the attention of Stephanie.

417 N.W. 16th Street, Suite 6
Belle Glade, Florida 33430
Phone: (561) 996-4404
Fax: (561) 996-2209

SCHOOL NEWS & CHILDREN INTERESTS

Glade View students take Everglades trip

Hard working students from Glade View Elementary spent their first day of spring vacation experiencing Everglades National Park. Twenty-nine students from Mrs. Nowak's and Mrs. Stigall's fourth grade classes earned the hands-on learning experience through their dedication to learning and excellent behavior.

To prepare for the trip, the students conducted classroom experiments about the Everglades' habitats, plant and animal life, and the importance of maintaining one of our state's most valuable resources. Students discovered the impact they had on the Everglades and how to preserve it for our future.

Upon arriving at the park, the students equipped with science journals, sharpened

pencils, cameras, and plenty of insect repellent, explored the Park's Royal Palm area coming face to face with alligators, wading birds, and plenty of those pesky mosquitoes.

Stopping for lunch, the students cooked hot dogs using solar ovens made out of cardboard boxes. After a restful and filling lunch, the group continued recording observations and drawing diagrams of the plant and animal life through the park's many habitats all the way to Florida Bay.

To celebrate the fun and educational day, the students enjoyed a well deserved dinner at Denny's Restaurant in Florida City before returning home to Belle Glade.

The chaperones who accompanied the young scientists were teachers Nancy

Nowak, Kathleen Hutchinson, Mark Dunaway, Cynthia Stigall, Mr. T. Williams, and Ms. M. McRae.

The following students are now Glade View's Everglades experts: Troy Latia Walker, Geneeka Morris, Jesus Monjarez, Veronica Miles, Shalanda O'Neal, Victoria Mata, Gregory Stewart, Melvavis Porter, Shantoria Salter, Shakera Hamilton, Yarhonda Highsmith, Willie Lawrence, Wilfred Augustin, Barnard Faustine Rickia Mann, Crystal Whitaker, Fredika Garrett, Charline Gibson, Kent Henderson, Wilmetta Balfour, Kevin Brown, Samantha Cannady, Felicia Turner, Gregory King, Chasity Wiggins, Janee Ivery, and Alton Johnson.



Exploring the great outdoors...These Glade View Elementary students used their first day of spring vacation to go and explore Everglades National Park.

and teachers Nancy and

Stephanie Schneider Sun Reporter

Almost every child in the world wants to be a T.V. star.

Glades area children got the chance on April 2 at Pioneer Park in Belle Glade.

A television crew from WPBT2 came to Belle Glade to tape area children introducing

shows and making comments

on the programs. They also

were able to offer KidTIPS on

safety, history, reading and sci-

ence.

WPBT2 is South Florida's public television station and

KidVision is a special pro-

gramming platform just for kids on Channel 2. WPBT2 features approximately 40 hours of educational and entertaining shows appropriate for children in the age group of 1-10.

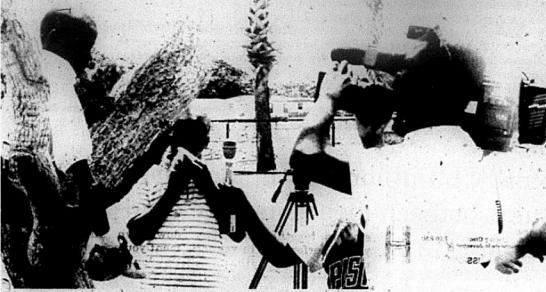
What makes KidVision so unique is that the anchors and commentary is done by children from South Florida. That way, the viewers get to be the stars of the show.

The talent for the anchors and commentary positions were provided by and arranged through WAYDA, INC., a non-profit organization dedicated

to the training and arrangement of human resources to aide individuals, youth, families and community-based organizations. WAYDA provided children for the television shoot through their Youth Empowerment Program (YEP).

YEP provides after school activities for "at risk" children in Glades communities.

The KidVision T.V. shoot provided for Glades children to participate in a worthwhile, educational and entertaining experience that keeps them out of trouble and having quality fun.



The future of television...This Belle Glade boy has a bright future in the television industry if he keeps up at the rate he's going.
Photo by Stephanie Schneider

Glades Day School Gator Tales

Hall

The alumni of the odd graduating years made it two wins in a row when they defeated the even years in a fun-filled alumni baseball game. Sunday afternoon, April 6. They broke a 9-9 tie in the bottom of the ninth inning when Steve Richey (Class of '79) knocked in Paul Prescott ('89) to win the game. Brian Lohmann ('84) helped the even years cause going 4-5 including a home run in his first at-bat.

The seniors are chomping at the bit for the school year to end but first they have several activities on hand, beginning with the Senior Class Play that will be presented this Friday and Saturday evening, April 11-12, in the school's gymnasium.

The play is a two-act comedy titled "Hollywood Hotel" and is sure to guarantee some laughs for those who come. It's about three girls from Missouri who hit Hollywood, each hoping to make a success in her career - an actress, a producer and a writer. They hook up with some other offbeat Hollywood hopefuls in a

rundown hotel run by a shady landlady, who wants to kick the girls out but keep their security deposit. Showtime is 7:30 p.m. each evening. Tickets, which will include hot doggers to be served after the performance, are \$8 per person. Contact the high school office (996-6769), or Beck White (996-5800).

The Class of '97 will also get to use that special privilege when they are allowed to take Monday, April 21, as a free skip day. This is a tradition usually extended to graduating seniors by GDS and they take full advantage of it, usually by going for some sun 'n fun at the beach and maybe catching a movie (or two). Enjoy it, seniors!

Another event this weekend is the varsity softball team's Pancake Breakfast that will be held from 7-11 a.m. this Saturday, April 12, in Tripp Hall. The breakfast will include pancakes with all the trimmings. Tickets are \$4.50 for adults, \$2.50 for children (ages 6 and under). Those interested may contact Karen Hansford at the high school office.

This week marks the end of the fifth grading period and students are busy cramming for their final exams of the six weeks. Just think, Gators - only six more weeks!

GDS would like to thank all those in the community who helped make this year's Spring Fling a success. Congratulations are in order for elementary student, Bo Schlechter, who was the big winner of the two-passenger Tee Doo drawing. Bo is the grandson of Johnny & Eleanor Schlechter. Mrs. Jane Rivers won the quilt donated by Log Cabin Quilts and Don Anderson was the winner of the shotgun. The drawings were held during the Western dance held last Saturday evening in Tripp

Hall and the senior class sponsored the event.

Expecting a refund, but haven't paid certain bills? Federal law allows you to income tax refund to be taken as a pay-off of unpaid past due child and spousal support, delinquent student loans, income tax or federal debts. If your refund was used to pay back what you owe, the IRS will notify you.

Lights...Camera...Action! Glades area children star on television

By Stephanie Schneider
Sun Reporter

Almost every child in the world wants to be a T.V. star. Glades area children got the chance on April 2 at Pioneer Park in Belle Glade.

A television crew from WPBT2 came to Belle Glade to tape area children introducing shows and making comments on the programs. They also were able to offer KidTIPS on safety, history, reading and science.

WPBT2 is South Florida's public television station and KidVision is a special pro-

gramming platform just for kids on Channel 2. WPBT2 features approximately 40 hours of educational and entertaining shows appropriate for children in the age group of 1-10.

What makes KidVision so unique is that the anchors and commentary is done by children from South Florida. That way, the viewers get to be the stars of the show.

The talent for the anchors and commentary positions were provided by and arranged through WAYDA, INC., a non-profit organization dedicated

No Refund?



Expecting a refund, but haven't paid certain bills? Federal law allows you to income tax refund to be taken as a pay-off of unpaid past due child and spousal support, delinquent student loans, income tax or federal debts. If your refund was used to pay back what you owe, the IRS will notify you.

Taxes in Spanish

Where can you get tax help in Spanish? Publication 575, *How to Prepare for a Decision on Your Impuesto de Ingresos*, has information in Spanish about which form to file, which filing status to choose, tax credits, tax breaks, income and some of the more common tax credits. Call 1-800-829-3676 to order.

Label and Envelope—A Good Idea

When filing a federal tax return, use the pre-taped label and envelope that comes inside the tax booklet. Using them shortens the return's processing time and lessens the chance of misrouted mail or refunds because of hard-to-read handwriting.

Free Tax Help



Are you aware of all the resources the IRS makes available to you? To get the inside scoop on all free IRS tax services, order Publication 1615, *Publication 1615: Your Guide to Free Tax Services*.

To order Publication 910, use the number on your tax package or call 1-800-829-3676. Here are some highlights:

Braille and Large Print Materials

Federal tax materials in Braille are available at Regional Libraries for the Blind and Physically Handicapped in cooperation with the Library of Congress. These materials include Publication 17, *Your Federal Income Tax: Publication 334, Tax Guide For Small Business Owners and Who Use Schedule C Or C-EZ*; and Forms 1040, 1040A, and 1040EZ; and Schedules A and B, with instructions. Publication 1614, *Form 1040, Its Schedules and Instructions* are in Publication 1614. Large-print copies of Form 1040A, Schedules 1, 3 and EIC,

and their instructions are in Publication 1615. The copies can be used as worksheets to figure your tax.

Volunteer Tax Help
Do you or someone you know need help with your taxes? Returns? If so, the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) or Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) may be of service to you.

Both VITA and TCE volunteers help older individuals, those with disabilities, and non-English speaking taxpayers with tax issues in locations convenient to their customers. Call the IRS office for the nearest location.

PRP Fixes Tax Problems
Do you have a problem with the IRS and has yet to be resolved? The Problem Resolution Program (PRP) can help resolve problems that you haven't been able to settle through normal channels. Call the IRS and ask for PRP.

H&R BLOCK

349 N.W. 16th St., #105 306 So. W.C. Owen Ave.
Belle Glade, FL 33430 Clewiston, FL 33440
561-996-6268 **941-983-5377**

Belle Glade poets could win up to \$1,000

A \$1,000 prize is being offered in a free poetry contest sponsored by the International Library of Famous Poets. There is no entry fee and everyone is free to enter.

"This is our favorite contest of the year," says Poetry

Editor Dr. G. Charles Nash, "because it encourages beginners. We want to find the best grassroots poets among those writing in Florida, and in the Belle Glade area in particular."

The deadline for entering is April 30. Poems may be writ-



PBCC's Spotlight

on the "Fabulous" Glades Campus

By Leigh Woodham

On Friday, April 25, the Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center will present Romantic Piano and Light Classics starring the very talented pianist Leon Bates. One of America's leading pianists, Mr. Bates has performed

with many of the major U.S. symphonies such as the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Cleveland Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the San Francisco Symphony, the Atlanta Symphony, to name a few.

He will perform at 11 a.m. for area students if you are interested in having your students attend, call the theatre at 992-6160, and at 7:30 p.m. Tickets for the evening performance are \$15.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students.

Palm Tran changes system on April 13

On Sunday, April 13 Palm Tran will once again implement several route and schedule changes to their new system. The improvements are needed to satisfy passenger demands and respond to traffic conditions.

Last August 5, 1996 when the brand new system came on-line, Palm Tran promised to continue to make system improvements, as often as necessary, until they achieved the most effective transit system possible. The April 13th improvements will be the second major set of changes

implemented after the new system implementation. The first set of changes occurred last October 1996. As Palm Beach County continues to grow and change, so will we," stated Mr. Irving Cure, Palm Tran's Executive Director.

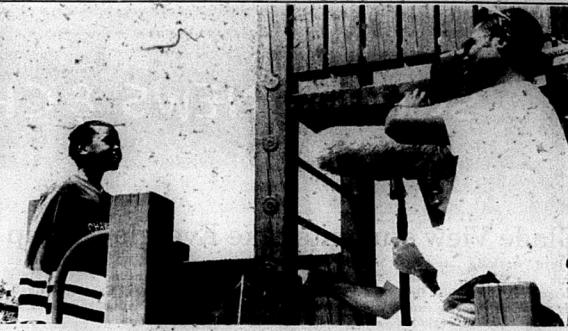
Palm Tran management believes changes to the system could occur between one and three times per year.

Route 40: West Palm Beach to Belle Glade via Okeechobee and S.R. 80... Minor re-routing off S.R. 80 to provide service to Sugar Plant in Belle Glade. No Schedule Changes.

Route 47: Pahokee to Belle Glade via S.R. 15... Eliminated service east of S.R. 15 on Airport Road. Airport Road now served by modified Route 40. Adjusted scheduled to fit new routing.

Route 48: Canal Point to South Bay via S.R. 715... No Route Changes. Added additional weekday p.m. trips until 9:10 p.m. to serve Palm Beach Community College West Campus.

*Listed are only the changes that will directly effect the Glades areas.



This youngster is definitely not camera shy...Channel 2's KidVision camera crew was working with this Glades area youngster and found out she's quite the television personality. Photo by Stephanie Schneider

Please see LIGHTS CAMERA ACTION...page 9

Two Florida Panthers die after being released into Big Cypress National Preserve

Two male Florida Panthers, raised in captivity and released into the Big Cypress National Preserve Jan. 30, are dead. Wildlife officials are awaiting necropsy results to determine what caused their deaths.

In late February, one of the cats began behaving strangely - remaining in one area longer than normal. Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission (GFC) and National Park Service (NPS) scientists moved in to investigate and found the animal known to scientists as Panther No. 203 - barely alive. It died within an hour, and researchers took its carcass to the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine at Gainesville.

GFC wildlife biologist Dr. Brad Gruber said University of

Florida veterinarians performed a necropsy on the animal, but found no clear indication of what killed it.

"They ran tests to see if they could find bacteria, viruses, blood problems, parasites or organ problems," Gruber said.

"They did find the cat had hemorrhagic pneumonia, which means the cat's lungs were inflamed and contained blood fluid."

Test results should be available within a few days, he said.

March 10, Panther No. 201 also demonstrated unusual behavior and again, scientists found the animal to be in extremely weak condition when they investigated. The cat died the next day at White Oak Plantation, the endangered species facility where both animals had lived for six

years after scientists removed them from the wild in 1991. The necropsy results of No. 201 also had hemorrhagic pneumonia.

The two cats wore radio collars that enabled wildlife researchers to track their movements and behavior. Tracking data reveals that the two animals had been in close proximity recently and may even have fought over territory or breeding rights to female panthers that also were in the area.

"The National Park Service is keeping an eye on the females to see if they show any cause for concern," Gruber said. Florida panthers are among the most critically endangered animals in North America. Fewer than 50 still roam in the wild.

Bass Champions to hold tournament on Lake Okeechobee this weekend at Belle Glade ramp

The Bass Champions Team Trial will hold qualifying tournament for Florida Division Five on Saturday, April 12, 1997, on Lake Okeechobee at the Belle Glade ramp. Florida Division Four will hold its next tournament on Saturday, April 26, at Lake Kissimmee, Camp Mack Ranch. All tournaments run from safe light until 3 p.m.

Non-members may sign up at the ramp the day of the tournament, without paying the \$15 late fee.

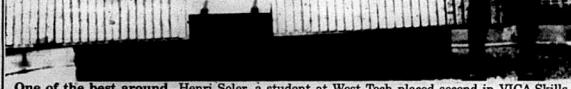
The tournament entry fee is \$110 per team. Each angler can choose their own partner, and both must become members of Bass Champions. The five-fish limit tournament

rule applies to a team whether it consists of one person or two; therefore, a person may fish alone with no disadvantage. Annual membership is \$25 per person and includes a yearly subscription to AnglerSport magazine and the news publication, Bass Champions News; as well as a Bass Champions patch, decal, and key chain. For current members paying at the ramp, the entry fee is \$125 (including late fee).

Members of Bass Champions can qualify for the year-end Bass Champions Team Challenge by fishing in at least four of the local tournaments within their division and by fishing in the top 15 of their division. The 1997 Bass Champions Team Challenge

will be held at Lake Neely Henry in Gadsden, Alabama, Sept. 16-20. The Challenge has an expected payout of more than \$100,000, including three guaranteed, fully-funded Hawk boats.

Bass Champions is the largest team trail in the country, which conducts over 250 qualifying tournaments for members in over 30 states. Anglersport, Inc., headquartered in Perdido Key, Fl., is the parent organization of the Bass champions Team Trail. Interested individuals can call Anglersport, Inc., at (904) 492-4800 to join or call Florida Division Four Director: John Adkinson at (941) 676-3335 or Division Five Director, Mike Hones at (561) 687-2113 for further information specific to the Florida trails.



One of the best around...Henri Soler, a student at West Tech placed second in VICA Skills Olympics and will progress to state level.

West Tech student places second in VICA Skills Olympics & progresses to state

The VICA Skills Regional Competition was held at the South Technical Education Center on March 6, 1997. Awards were given at Atlantic High School on March 7, 1997.

Henri Soler, an adult student who attends the Auto Body Program at West Technical Education Center, placed second in the Post-Secondary Division for District Three in Florida.

He competed with 12 other adults from technical centers located from Lake County south to Palm Beach County.

Henri is a graduate of Okeechobee High School and commutes each day to attend classes at West Tech. He is a second-year student in the Auto Body Program, taught by David Veale, who is also the VICA Advisor at West Tech.

West Tech is very proud of his accomplishments and wished him luck when he competes at the state-level in May, says administrator Shirley Maxson.

The State Competition is scheduled May 7-9 at Orlando Vocational Tech Center. The actual competition will be held on May 8 and awards will be given on May 9. First place winners will advance to Nationals.

If a person decides to appeal the decision of the panel of judges with respect to any matter decided on, the person may request that the panel of judges review its decision. The person may do so by sending a written notice of appeal to the panel of judges within ten days of the date of the decision.

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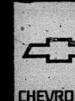
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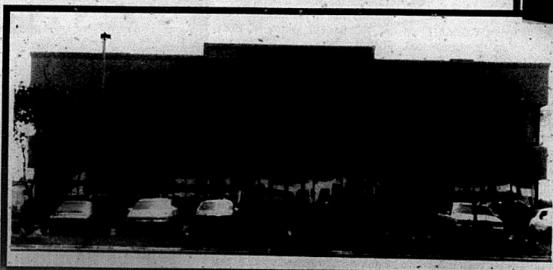
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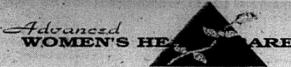


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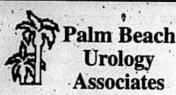
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Seth Herbst, M.D., F.A.C.O.G.
Steven Pliskow, M.D., F.A.C.O.G.
Keith Aqua, M.D.
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Pedro Sanchez, D.O.
Ernest Riggs, P.A.

Columbia Palms West Hospital Receives Accreditation with Commendation.

Columbia Palms West Hospital has achieved accreditation with commendation from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. This is the highest level of accreditation awarded by the Joint Commission, which is the nation's oldest and largest accrediting body.

Formed in 1951, the Joint Commission is dedicated to improving the quality of the nation's health care through voluntary accreditation. The on-site survey of Columbia Palms West Hospital occurred in September.

"Receiving Accreditation with Commendation is a significant achievement, one that recognizes exemplary performance by Columbia Palms West Hospital," says Dennis S. O'Leary, M.D., President, Joint Commission. "This organization should be commended for its commitment to providing quality care to the people in the community."

PEDIATRICS

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Stacey Clair, M.D.

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